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Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT BUENOS AIRES 6656 ACTION SECSTATE 04 SEP 74

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 6656

FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLAKE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, UNSC
SUBJECT: DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLAKE'S CONSULTATION
WITH GOA FONOFF ON UNGA

SUMMARY: DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLAKE, ACCOMPANIED BY (A)DCM AND EMBOFF, MET AFTERNOON AUG 28 WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR FOREIGN POLICY, MILINA SALES; CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION DEPARTMENT, FERNANDEZ ESCALANTE; CHIEF OF NORTH AMERICAN DEPARTMENT, DIEGO MEDUS; AND CHIEF OF UN AFFAIRS, DANIEL OLMOS. KEY POINTS OUTLINED BELOW. MOLINA SALAS CARRIED ON DISCUSSION FOR GOA SIDE AND WAS CANDID AND CORDIAL THROUGHOUT OVER THREE-HOUR DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY

1. DETENTE AND THE UN--IN RESPONSE TO BLAKE'S QUERY AS TO GOA'S GENERAL VIEWS ON FUNCTIONING OF UN, MOLINA SALAS REPLIED THAT IN HIS VIEW THE UN FUNCTIONED NOT AT ALL ON POLITICAL
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QUESTIONS BUT DID SATISFACTORILY HANDLE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL

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QUESTIONS. HE FELT THAT POLITICAL QUESTIONS WERE SUCCESSFULLY DEALT WITH IN A UN CONTEXT ONLY WHEN THE SUPERPOWERS HAD AGREED ON THE OBJECTIVES THEY WERE SEEKING. ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL MATTERS, THE UN FUNCTIONED SATISFACTORILY AND HE HOPED THAT THIS WOULD CONTINUE TO BE SO IN THE FUTURE.

2. CYPRUS QUESTION--BLAKE, AT MOLINA SALAS' REQUEST, GAVE A RUNDOWN ON US VIEWS ON THE ORIGIN AND PROBABLE SOLUTION OF THE CRISIS. MOLINA SALAS, WITH AMB FERNANDEZ ESCALANTE NODDING APPROVINGLY, OBSERVED THAT OUR GOVERNMENTS VIEWED ISSUE IN VERY SIMILAR LIGHT. WE BOTH WISHED TO SEE CYPRUS REMAIN INDEPENDENT (WHETHER UNDER MAKARIOS OR NOT WAS NOT PRIME GOA CONSIDERATION) AND NEITHER OF OUR GOVERNMENT FELT FORMAL PARTITION WAS A SOLUTION THAT OFFERED PROSPECTS FOR STABLE PEACE. MOLINA SALAS SAID INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO GOA INDICATED THAT THERE WERE GOOD PROSPECTS FOR A SOLUTION TO BE WORKED OUT DIRECTLY BY THE TWO CYPRIOT FACTIONS. THUS, IN GOA VIEW, ISSUE BEST RESOLVED BY THE PARTIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED. EFFORTS BY OUTSIDERS TO INFLUENCE THE OUTCOME WOULD NOT CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY TO A SOLUTION. FOR THIS REASON, ARGENTINA HAD DECLINED TO SUPPORT ALGERIAN PROPOSAL TO ASK FOR A SPECIAL UNGA TO DEAL WITH THE CYPRUS QUESTION. FURTHER, MOLINA SALAS NOTED THAT THE UNGA WOULD BE BEST ADVISED TO LEAVE THE CYPRUS ISSUE WITH THE DIRECTLY-INTERESTED PARTIES AND STAY OUT OF THE MATTER.

3. MISSLE EAST--ACCORDING TO MOLINA SALAS, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, HAVING REVIEWED THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION, NOW BELIEVES THAT EVENTS ARE MOVING RAPIDLY IN DIRECTION OF A PERMANENT SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. HE FELT THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER DESERVED MUCH CREDIT FOR HAVING BROUGHT ABOUT THIS SITUATION. WHILE OF COURSE REALIZING THAT THE PALESTINIAN SITUATION POSED A THREAT TO A SOLUTION, GOA FEELS THAT THE ARABS, HAVING ACCEPTED THE EXISTENCE OF AN ISRAELI STATE AND RIDING A WAVE OF SUCCESSES, E.E., THE YOM KIPPUR WAR AND THE OIL EMBARGO, WERE IN A POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL POSITION TO SEE THIS PROBLEM TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION. HE ADDED THAT ARGENTINA FELT THAT THE ISSUES COULD BEST BE HANDLED BY THE PARTIES CONCERNED. HE AGREED THAT GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S ROLE BEST LIMITED TO HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR REFUGEES AND PEACEKEEPING. BLAKE CAUTIONED AGAINST TOO MUCH CONFIDENTIAL

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ARGENTINE OPTIMISM ABOUT EARLY MIDDLE EAST SOLUTION.

4. KOREA--ON KOREA, MOLINA SALAS, FOLLOWING BLAKE'S EXPOSITION OF THE US POSITION, SAID THAT ARGENTINA MAINTAINS GOOD RELATIONS WITH BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH, WOULD EVENTUALLY SUPPORT BOTH FOR UN MEMBERSHIP. HE FOLLOWED WITH INTEREST BLAKE'S EXPOSITION OF THE FORCES AT PLAY IN THE AREA AND SHOWED APPRECIATION FOR NECESSITY TO REACH SOLUTION WHICH DID NOT CREAT SEVERE PROBLEMS

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FOR EITHER CHINA OR JAPAN. HE SUMMED UP THE ARGENTINE POSITION ON KOREA BY SAYING THEY WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN A TWO-STATE, ONE-NATION GERMAN THESIS WHILE TRYING TO ARGUE THE CONTRARY REGARDING KOREA.

5. CAMBODIA-- AFTER HEARING US POSITION MOLINA SALAS SAID THAT ARGENTINA TAKES ITS NONALIGNED POSITION SERIOUSLY AND TREATS BOTH PARTIES IN CONTROVERSY ON BASIS OF EQUALITY; WILL CONTINUE TO FAVOR NEITHER PARTY; AND COMMENTED ON DIFFICULTY ARGENTINA HAD WITH SIHANOUK CLAIMS TO BE EFFECTIVE RULER OF CAMBODIA WHILE REMAINING IN EXILE IN PEKING. MOLINA SALAS INDICATED ARGENTINA LIKELY TO ABSTAIN ON ANY RESOLUTION ON CAMBODIA.

6. FOOD AND RESOURCES--BLAKE GAVE ARGENTINES US ASSESSMENT OF PROBLEMS FACING POORER TWENTY NATIONS. ARGENTINES, WHILE AWARE OF SEVERE PROBLEMS FACING URUGUAY, WERE SURPRISED BY PROSPECTS FOR ECONOMIC CRISIS IN CHILE. MOLINA SALA SAID THAT OIL, FOOD, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, ACCESS TO RESOURCES, AND OTHER COMPLEX FACTORS WHICH ARE GROWING IN IMPORTANCE WHILE OLD IDEOLOGICAL DISPUTES, E.G., COLONIZATION, RECEDE WOULD REQUIRE A "NEW DEAL" IF THE WORLD IS TO ACHIEVE A SOLUTION TO THESE URGENT PROBLEMS. HE DID, HOWEVER, STRESS THAT ARGENTINA COULD NOT AND WOULD NOT CONTRIBUTE TO SOLUTION OF THE FOOD PROBLEM ON A CHARITABLE BASIS. FOODSTUFFS, RPRESENTING AS THEY DO 80 PERCENT OF ARGENTINA'S EXPORTS, WERE THE COUNTRY'S HOPE FOR ITS OWN DEVELOPMENT AND WHILE BANGLADESH AND OTHER STATES WERE FACING CRITICAL SHORTAGES, ARGENTINA COULD NOT AND WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEMPT TO SOLVE THEM THROUGH A GIVE-AWAY PROGRAM. MOLINA SALAS REVERTED AGAIN TO THE NOTION THAT THESE PROBLEMS REQUIRED A NEW DEAL AND FURTHER OBSERVED THAT WHILE DIMENSIONS OF PROBLEMS CAUSED BY FOOD SHORTAGES, OTHER RESOURCE SHORTAGES AND RAPID RISE OF PETROLEUM WERE BEGINNING TO BE APPRECIATED IN FOREIGN MINISTRY, OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND KEY INTEREST GROUPS
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WERE AS YET UNAWARE OF THESE PROBLEMS AND HAD TO BE EDUCATED TO THEM.

7. URUGUAY--MOLINA SALAS CITED URUGUAY AS AN EXAMPLE OF A NATION CAUGHT IN THE CURRENT SQUEEZE CAUSED BY THE RISE IN PRICE OF OIL AND OTHER RAW MATERIALS. IF LEFT ALONE URUGUAY WOULD NOT REMAIN VIABLE AND FURTHER DECLINE COULD CAUSE SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR ARGENTINA. REALIZING THIS IT WAS CLEAR TO GOA THAT THE SOLUTION TO URUGUAY'S PROBLEMS WERE THUS THE "RESPONSIBILITY" OF BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA. MILINA SALAS OUTLINED THE STEPS ARGENTINA WAS WILLING TO TAKE IN MEETING ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARD URUGUAY. THESE STEPS INCLUDED THE CREATION OF A CUSTOMS UNION, INCREASED ARGENTINE INVESTMENT IN URUGUAY, "A HONG KONG FREE PORT STATUS FOR MONTEVIDEO", AND OTHERS. THOUGH URUGUAY IS A SMALL NATION, ATTEMPTING TO

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HELP IT THROUGH ITS DIFFICULTIES WOULD STRAIN ARGENTINA'S
RESOURCES. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE NECESSITY TO ACT ON THIS
PROBLEM WAS MORE CLEARLY SEEN IN FOREIGN MINISTRY THAN IN
OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OR BY PUBLIC OPINION.

8. PORTUGAL IN AFRICA--MOLINA SALAS AGREED WITH BLAKE THAT
LISBON WAS MOVING TOWARD SATISFACORY SOLUTIONS WITH ITS
COLONIES. HE FURTHER STATED THAT GOA, LIKE US, BELIEVED
PORTUGUESE NEEDED, FOR INTERNAL POLITICAL REASONS, TIME TO
REACH SETTLEMENTS. AT THIS POINT THE UNGA'S MOST POSITIVE
CONTRIBUTION TO A SETTLEMENT WOULD BE TO AVOID ISSUE HE
ADDED THE GOA BELIEVES THAT THE EFFECTS OF PORTUGAL'S
NEW AFRICA POLICY WILL HAVE A LARGE BUT AS YET UNDETERMINED
IMPACT ON SOUTH AFRICA.

9. MALVINAS-- USING DISCUSSION OF AFRICAN COLONIAL ISSUE AS
DEPARTURE POINT, MOLINA SALAS RAISED ISSUE OF MALVINAS.
TALKS WITH LONDON ARE UNDERWAY, HE EXPLAINED, BUT BRITISH
WERE RESISTING DISCUSSION OF THE KEY POINT--TRANSFER OF
SOVEREIGNTY. UNTIL THIS ISSUE IS RESOLVED THE MALVINAS
ARE A MORTGAGE ON THE GOA'S FOREIGN POLICY. THE AFRICAN
AND ASIAN STATES WHICH SUPPORT ARGENTINA ON THIS ISSUE REGULARLY
PRESENT DUE BILLS ON UNREALTED MATTERS. COULDN'T THE
US, MOLINA SALAS ASKED, ARGENTINA'S GOOD FRIEND, INQUIRE OF
LONDON ITS PLANS FOR THE MALVINAS. MERELY HAVING THE US
ASK THE QUESTION WOULD HAVE BENEFICIAL
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EFFECTS FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS. MOLINA SALAS EXPRESSED FEAR
THE ISSUE WHILE SERIOUS NOW WOULD BE GREATLY COMPLICATED IF
OIL WERE DISCOVERED ON SHELF AROUND THE ISLANDS. BLAKE SAID
HE WOULD PASS ON MOLINA SALAS' REQUEST TO THE DEPARTMENT.
COMMENT: GOA OFFICIALS WERE UNANIMOUS IN DESCRIBING EXCHANGE
OF VIEWS AFFORDED BY BLAKE'S TRIP AS VERY POSITIVE. EMBASSY
ALSO BELIEVES THAT SUCH EXCHANGES UNDERLINING AS THEY DO
US CONCERN FOR IMPORTANT UNGA OBJECTIVES STRENGTHEN
IMMEASURABLY OUR DIPLOMATIC POSITION IN ARGENTINA.
HILL UNQTE KISSINGER

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